GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2056
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2016
Review of Mid Day Meal Scheme
Ajmal Maulana Badruddin;Chudasama Shri Rajeshbhai Naranbhai;Dubey Shri Satish Chandra;Gogoi Shri Gaurav;Khuba Shri Bhagwanth;Muddahanumegowda Shri S.P.;Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao;Vichare Shri Rajan Baburao

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

a) whether a meeting of the Empowered Committee for Mid Day Meal Scheme was held at New Delhi recently to review the National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education, 2006 and if so, the details of participants, discussions held and outcome thereof;
b) whether the Mid Day Meal provided in schools in various States is according to the norms of the Government and if so, the details thereof including the monitoring mechanism adopted by the Government to check quality, safety and hygiene of Mid Day Meals in schools across the country;
c) the number of incidents of serving substandard/contaminated mid day meal reported during the last three years, State/UT-wise and year-wise along with the number of casualties/deaths reported; and
d) the current per head sanctioned amount under the Mid Day Meal Scheme and measures taken to ensure the adequacy of the amount to provide nutritious food to the poor children to keep them healthy and encouraged to attend school?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)
(a): Yes, Madam. A meeting of the Empowered Committee for Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) was held at New Delhi on 07.09.2016 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development to review the implementation of the Scheme. The list of participants is given at Annexure −I. The committee reviewed the performance of the scheme and identified certain issues to be examined such as adequacy of cooking cost, extension of MDMS to class 9th and 10th, community participation, use of LPG, provision of more foodgrains for children in tribal areas and safety, quality & hygiene etc. The Committee recommended setting up of an expert committee to examine the above issues.
(b): The Mid-day Meal is provided to children studying in classes I-VIII of eligible schools in the States/UTs as per the following norms:-

S.No.	Items	Quantity per day / child	
		Primary	Upper Primary
1	Foodgrain (Rice / Wheat)	100 gm	150 gm
2	Pulses	20 gm	30 gm
3	Vegetables (leafy also)	50 gm	75 gm
4	Oil & Fat	5 gm	7.5 gm
5	Salt & Condiments	As per need	As per need

The Government has adopted an elaborate monitoring mechanism at Central, State and District levels to check quality, safety and hygiene of Mid Day Meals. At national level, an Empowered Committee, headed by Minister of HRD, a National level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee (NSMC) and Programme Approval Board (PAB), both headed by Secretary (School Education & Literacy), evaluate the performance of each State in implementation of the Scheme and suggest measures for its smooth and effective implementation. At the State level, a State level Steering−cum-Monitoring Committee headed by the State Chief Secretary and, at District Level, a District Level Committee under the Chairpersonship of senior-most Member of Parliament of Lok Sabha, of the district monitors the implementation of the scheme in the concerned District. Besides, at local level Gram Panchayats /Gram Sabhas, member of Village Education Committees (VECs), Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs), School Management Committees (SMCs) are required to monitor the regularity and wholesomeness of the mid day meal served to children, cleanliness in cooking and serving of the mid day meal, timeliness in procurement of good quality ingredients, fuel, etc., implementation of varied menu and social and gender equity on a daily basis. In addition, the Centre constitutes Joint Review Missions (JRMs) consisting of educational and nutritional experts, which review the scheme through field visits from time to time. The reports of JRMs are shared with concerned States/UTs for taking corrective action on the findings.
(c) The State/UT-wise details of the number of incidents of serving

substandard/contaminated mid- day meal reported from various States / UTs during the last three years are given at annexure-ll. During the last three years, only one such incident has been reported in July, 2013 in District Saran of Bihar in which 23 children died after consuming the Mid Day Meal.
(d) The cooking cost which includes the cost of vegetables, pulses, oil, condiments & fuel has been enhanced by 7% w.e.f. 01.07.2016 and the current cooking cost is Rs.4.13 and Rs.6.18 per child per day for Primary and Upper Primary stage, respectively. In addition, the Central Government provides 100% funding for foodgrains, transport assistance, kitchen devices and Management/Monitoring Expenses. Several State/UT Governments are also contributing additional funds over and above their minimum mandatory share under Mid Day Meal Scheme to provide nutritious food to the poor children to keep them healthy and encouraged to attend school.
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